THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is used only as auto fuel and is not used by industries. However, presently natural gas is being supplied to power and fertilizer sectors in Rajasthan, ex-HBJ pipeline and on-land sources within Rajasthan. Due to shortage of natural gas it has not been possible to consider any new allocation of natural gas to the different small industries in Rajasthan including glass and ceramic industries.

Closure of petrol pumps on account of irregularities

2777. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 6 petrol pumps in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan have recently been closed for 30 days on account of irregularities;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether the closure of a petrol pump for 30 days is an insufficient punishment for the various irregularities committed by petrol pump owners and it should be enhanced; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The details of Retail Outlet Dealerships closed for 30 days or more in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan on account of malpractices/irregularities during April, 2002 to October, 2002 are as follows:

Haryana	3
Uttar Pradesh	25
Rajasthan	8
TOTAL	36

(c) and (d) In case of malpractices/irregularities detected at the Retail Outlets, punitive action is taken against the errring dealers in line with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines. Severity of the punishment depends upon gravity/repetition of the offence.